VAIO

VGX-XL1 Digital Living™ System
Entertainment Guide

SONY

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Contents

Welcome 1

What is VGX-XL1? 2
Benefits of the VGX-XL1 3
VGX-XL1A Features 4
VGP-XL1B Features 5
Getting Started 6
- Using the Remote Control 7
- Using the Wireless Keyboard 8
- Getting Around Media Center 9
- Adding files to Media Center 10
- Using the Search Feature 11
- Support Resources 12

Media Center Setup 13

Settings 14
- General 15
  - Set Up and Window Behavior 16
  - Visual and Sound Effects 17
  - More Programs Options 18
  - Media Center Setup 19
    - Set Up Internet Connection 20
    - Set Up TV Signal 21
    - Set Up Your Speakers 22
    - Configure Your TV or Monitor 23

Set Up Remote Desktop 24
Automatic Updates 25
Join Wireless Network 26
Run Media Center Setup Again 27
Restore Start Page Defaults 28
Parental Controls 29
Automatic Download Options 30
Optimization 31
About Media Center 32
Privacy 33
TV 34
Recorder 35
History 36
Recorder Storage 37
Recording Defaults 38
Guide 39
Edit Channels 40
Add Missing Channels 41
Set Up Guide Listings 42
Additional Guide Information 43
Set Up TV Signal 44
Configure Your TV or Monitor 45
Audio 46
Pictures 47
Music 48
Visualizations 49
Visualizations Options 50
DVD 51
DVD Language 52
DVD Audio 53
Closed Captioning 54

Remote Control Options 55
Messenger and Caller ID Settings 56
Help 57

Media Center Features 61

Experience Media Center 62
My DVDs 64
Loading and Unloading Discs 65
Viewing DVD Movies 67
DVD Movie Controls 68
Online Spotlight 70
My Videos 71
Organize Your Videos Media Center 72
Play Your Videos 73
More Information 74
Create a DVD/CD 75
Import/Edit Video 76
My Pictures 78
Organize Your Pictures 79
View Your Pictures 80
Edit Your Pictures 81
Play a Slide Show 82
Create a CD/DVD 83
Picture Details 84
My TV 86
My TV Features 87
Watch Live TV 88
View the Guide 89
Record and Schedule Programs 91
Watch Recorded Programs 93

Search for a Program 94
Search for a Feature Movie 95
My Music 96
Organize Your Music Files 97
Play Music 98
Queue Music 99
Add Music 100
Create and Organize Playlists 101
Create DVD 103
Main Screen 104
My Changer 105
My Changer Music 106
Copy Music 107
Archive TV 109
More Programs 111
Manage Discs 112
Manage Discs: Media Types 113
Loading & Unloading Media Discs 114

SONY

VAIO® PC VGX-XL1

Welcome

What is VGX-XL1? 2

What are the Benefits 3

What are the Features 4

Getting Started 6

Using the Remote Control 7

Using the Wireless Keyboard 8

Getting Around Media Center 9

Adding Files to Media Center 10

Using the Search Feature 11

Support Resources 12

The **VGX-XL1** is both a powerful computer and a state of the art home entertainment system.

Let **VGX-XL1** lead you into the exciting world of VAIO where new standards are established for digital content management.

The design of **VGX-XL1** allows it to easily fit into any decor, thus completing your video, audio, and Internet experience by bringing powerful PC capabilities to your home theatre—all in the comfort of your living room.

What is VGX-XL1?

What is VGX-XL1?

The **VGX-XL1** is composed of two products combined to bring you the ultimate experience in digital home entertainment.

VGX-XL1 works just like any other computer, **EXCEPT IT OFFERS MORE!** More of the latest technology and excellence you have come to expect from Sony.

XL1A	XL1B
• Controls the combined products	• 200 disc Media Changer/Recorder
• Leverages the latest Intel components	• Burning of content to optical media
• Uses the latest Microsoft® Windows® XP Media Center operating system	• Storage, archiving, and playback of your CD/DVD library
• Offers High Definition connectivity for Sony HD Camcorders	• Easily connects to the XL1A computer through a single i.LINK® cable

Benefits of the VGX-XL1

Sony establishes new standards in video and audio home entertainment, and digital content management with the **VGX-XL1** Digital Living System™.

Playback and manage your entire media library through your home theatre, using a remote control or wireless keyboard. View it all on your TV or monitor for the optimal entertainment experience.

- **Packaged Content**
  Music CD's
  Movie DVD's
- **Personal Content**
  Digital Pictures
  HD Camcorder
  Mini DV Camcorder
- **Internet Content**
  downloaded Music
  Movies
  Pictures
  Recorded TV
  Streaming Video

Full Digital Living System functionality for the living room or den.

- Operates using the latest Microsoft® Windows® XP operating system (MCE) augmented with advanced VAIO® functionality.
- Enjoy the content of your media library through your TV/monitor and your home theatre.
- Multi-disc audio CD-ROM copying
- Multi-disc DVD burning
- HD connectivity with Sony HD Camcorder
- Simplified TV series archiving through sequential copying to DVD.

VGX-XL1A Features

The **XL1A** is a technologically advanced and powerful computer that will be right at home in your living room or den. Surf the Internet, download music and movies, record TV, watch videos, make copies of media files, and more— all managed using the wireless keyboard w/intragrated pointing device and the remote control.

The **XL1A** is equipped with the following additional features:

Cutting Edge IT Architecture	Pentium D, DDR 2 RAM, PCI-E graphics, S-ATA drives, RAID enabled, and multitasking.
High Storage Capacity	Internal storage to 1.5 TB (one trillion bytes) w/RAID.
Enhanced Connectivity	PC, wired, and wireless connectivity.
Combination Optical Drive	Allows for fast disk access and System Recovery. Note: This drive is read only, not write. To write files, use the Media Changer/Recorder.
Enhanced Remote Control	Control MCE features, including surfing the Internet.
Improved Web Surfing	Remote Control navigation and alphanumeric input.

VGP-XL1B Features

The **VGP-XL1B** is a disc media changer and recorder with an impressive ability to store 200 CD/DVD media discs. Enjoy a media library where you can view your DVD movies, listen to your CDs and have access to enhanced VAIO software that lets you do multi-disc ripping of CDs and burning of CD/DVDs.

The **VGP-XL1B** is equipped with the following additional features:

Disc Media Storage	200 Disc capacity.
Disc Media Support	CD-R, CD-RW, DVD+/-R/RW, DVD+R DL Double Layer media, Redbook Audio CDs, Movie DVDs (U.S. is default) **Note**: This unit does not support DualDisc media.
Ease of Use	Simple iLINK® connection to XL1A. **Customized software features: Manage Discs** and **My Changer** - gives you control of the discs in the media changer including auto ripping and multi-disc burning, and multi loading/ ejecting.
Remote Control	Specific remote-control-friendly operations.

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Getting Started

VGX-XL1 uses the Mircosoft® Windows® XP Media Center Edition operating system (MCE). This version has all of the features and capabilities of other XP operating systems, with one major difference—**Media Center**. This group of advanced features takes you into the world of digital home entertainment, bringing all of your entertainment sources together in a single location, easily managed by the VAIO® remote control or the VAIO® wireless keyboard.

This guide provides an overview of Media Center and additional advanced features unique to **VGX-XL1 Digital Living System™**.

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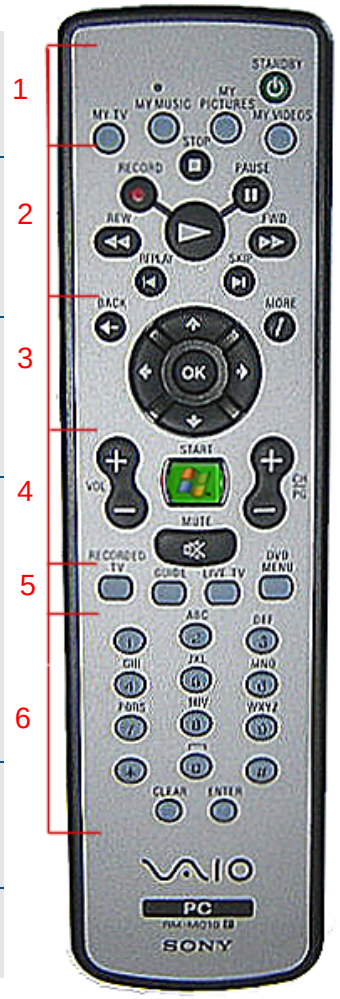
This guide will focus on the “living room” experience, using **Media Center** and the remote control to perform all tasks. The next few pages provide examples of how to get around and perform tasks in **Media Center**. Then, you will be guided through setting up **Media Center**, and finally, an overview of available features.

Using the Remote Control

Press a Remote Control button to do the following:

1	Start **MY TV**, **MY MUSIC**, **MY PICTURES**, **MY VIDEO** in Media Center. Press **STANDBY** to place your computer in Standby mode.
2	Control the playback for **TV**, **MUSIC**, **VIDEOS**, and ends a side show. Buttons include: **STOP**, **PAUSE**, **FWD**, **SKIP**, **REPLAY**, **REW**, and **RECORD**. The right arrow button serves as a **PLAY** button.
3	Use the arrow buttons to move to a specific location, the **OK** button to make your selection, the **BACK** button to go to the previous screen, and the **MORE** button to view additional information.
4	Use the **START** button to open Media Center. Volume Controls (**VOL**) are on the left and Channel (**CH**) or Page (**PG**) on the right of the **START** button. A **MUTE** button is also provided to suppress sound. **Important Note**: The VAIO® remote control will **NOT** control the sound for your TV. You must use the remote control that you are currently using to control the sound for your TV.
5	Open the following screens **RECORDED TV**, **GUIDE**, **LIVE TV**, **DVD MENU**. (DVD MENU is available only when Media Center is active.)
6	Use these buttons to change channels and enter text or numbers in a specific location.



Using the Wireless Keyboard

Below is a picture of your wireless keyboard and built-in touch pad (mouse) with specialized functions identified.

Before using the keyboard, you must activate communication between the computer and the keyboard. Please complete the following steps for keyboard installation.

Step 1: Insert the batteries	Step 2: Activate Communication
• Turn the keyboard over	• Slide the **Power** button to **On**
• Open the battery compartment	• Turn the keyboard over
• Insert supplied batteries as indicated	• Slide **Pointing Device** button to **On**
• Replace battery compartment cover	• Press **Connect** on computer and on back of keyboard at the same time.
• Return keyboard to its upright position	

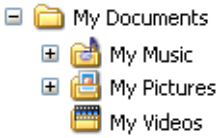
Getting Around Media Center

From inside Media Center:

Select this...	To do this...
	Start **Media Center** and return to **Start** menu.
	Close **Media Center**. Options for close include Media Center, Log Off, Shut Down, Restart, and Standby.
	Open **Media Center Help**.
	Press an arrow to move to a specific command or option. Then press **OK** to make your selection.
	Highlighted command button - Performs a function.
	Green Highlight - Indicates selected object. Press **OK**.
	Option button: Highlight, then press **OK** to select.
	Minus/Plus button: Press **OK** for more options in a list.
	Check boxes: Highlight, then press **OK** to select.

Adding files to Media Center

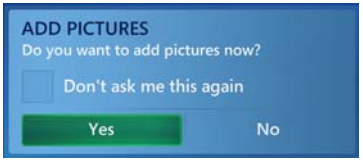
In order to access your media files to view **pictures**, **videos**, **recorded TV**, or listen to **music** you must place the files in a folder recognized by Media Center. Media Center recognizes the following folders located in the **My Documents** directory.



Note: The Recorded TV folder may be located in a separate partition on your hard drive.

You can add media files to recognized folders in the following ways:

- Copy files or folders directly to recognized folders using Windows Explorer.
- Download media files (Internet, Music CD's, Video) directly to recognized folders.
- Add additional folders, or shared folders for Media Center to recognize by pressing the **MORE** button and selecting **Add Pictures**/**Videos**/**Music**/**Recording** from the menu. Then follow the on-screen instructions.



Each time you open **My Pictures**, **My Videos**, or **My Music** a message appears asking if you would like to add new media files. You must respond to continue. To add files, select **Yes** and follow the on-screen instructions. This method will allow you to add folders, not individual files for Media Center to recognize. If you select the **Don't ask me this again** check box, you must add media files by pressing the **MORE** button and selecting the "**Add**" menu command.

Using the Search Feature

In Media Center, you can search through the TV listings or your media library to find just the right TV show or movie to watch, or just the right song to listen too—all by remote control.

Use the keypad on the remote control to enter text, much like you would using an address book on a cellular phone.

Each time you press a button on the numeric keypad on the remote, you scroll through the characters that are available for that button.

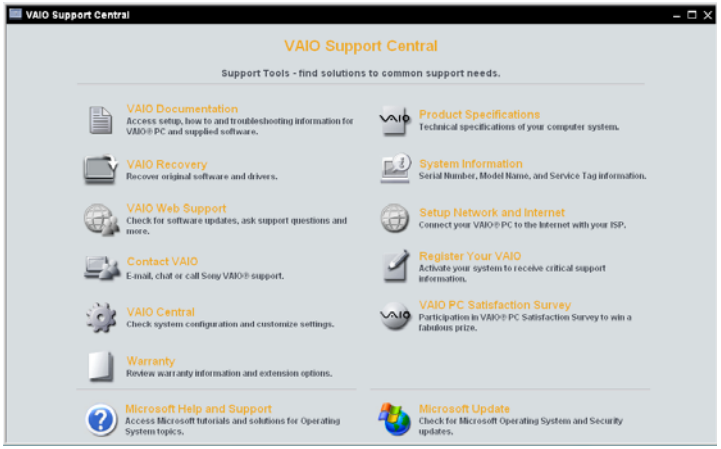
Press a number repeatedly to scroll through the choices that are available for that number. With each repeated press of a number, a different character appears. When entering text, you can also do the following:

- To switch between uppercase, lowercase, and symbol modes, press the **CH/PG+** or **CH/PG-** button on the remote.
- To backspace, press the **CLEAR** button on the remote.
- To enter a space between words, press the (**0**) button on the remote.
- When you find the character you want, press the **ENTER** button on the remote.

Support Resources

VAIO® Support Central provides you with a single location for all of your support needs and allows you to easily access valuable support and technical information from **Sony** and **Microsoft**.

Keep your VAIO computer's system software and operating system updated using **VAIO Web Support** and **Microsoft Update**.



To access VAIO Support Central, do the following:

1. Using your wireless keyboard with intragrated pointing device, click the Windows **Start** button.
2. From the **Start** menu, click **All Programs**.
3. From the **All Programs** menu, click **VAIO Support Central**.

Note: You must be connected to the Internet to access some of the VAIO Support Central features.

Media Center Setup

Sony VAIO® and Microsoft® Windows® XP Media Center Edition 2005 lets you do amazing things with your VAIO Digital Living System™ Personal Computer. With a full range of powerful, yet easy-to-use digital entertainment features, you can experience TV, movies, music, and photos like never before.

With VAIO and Media Center, you can bring all of your entertainment sources—**TV**, **Recording**, **Music**, **Pictures**, **CD/DVD Player**, **Internet**— together in a single location. This guide will assist you in setting up Media Center for your distinct entertainment needs, and then provide you with an overview of the major features.

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Media Center

Settings

General..... 15

TV..... 34

Pictures..... 47

Music..... 48

DVD..... 51

Messenger and Caller ID 56

Help..... 57

Note: The Media Center **Radio** feature is not supported by Sony VAIO.

Once you have set up your computer and have connected the Media Changer/Recorder and any additional hardware devices, you are ready to set up your Media Center preferences.

The first time you start Media Center, a setup "**wizard**" (a series of setup screens) opens. To enjoy the full benefit of Media Center, it is best to complete all screens. You may return to Settings at any time to change your preferences.

Please note: The Media Center setup wizard requires Internet connection to complete the process. Also, remember to check for Windows updates before you begin to make sure Media Center has the most recent software and security updates.

SONY

Media Center

General

Start Up and Window Behavior... 16

Visual and Sound Effects..... 17

More Programs Options..... 18

Media Center Setup..... 19

Parental Controls..... 29

Automatic Downloads Options... 30

Optimization..... 31

About Media Center..... 32

Privacy..... 33

The **General** settings are a series of options that effect Media Center and some general preferences for your computer.

You might want to take the time to review all of the **General** settings options to see what might improve your entertainment experience.

Set Up and Window Behavior

Start Menu | Settings | General

Start Up and Window Behavior

You can decide how Media Center starts and reacts to your environment. You can determine if Media Center:

- is always the top window.
- will warn you if a file or action is not designed for Media Center.
- starts when Windows starts.
- shows task bar notification.
- shows TV tips.

Use the arrow keys on your remote control to move to the buttons for each option. Press the **OK** button to select (add a check mark) or deselect (remove a check mark). When finished, select **Save**.

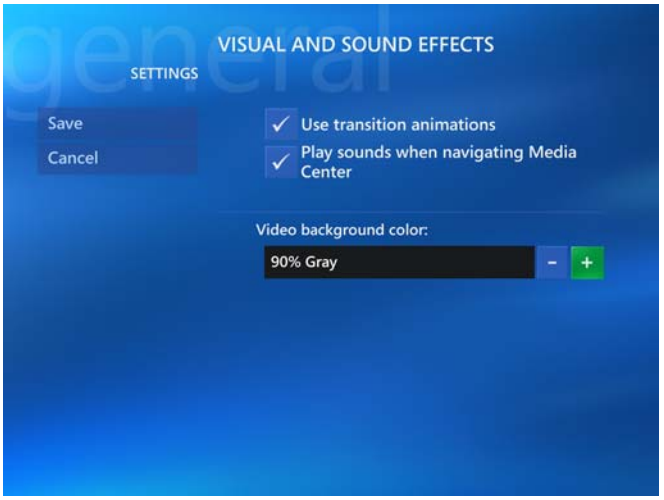
Visual and Sound Effects

Visual and Sound Effects

Adding visual and sound effects can add a new dimension to your entertainment enjoyment.

Here you can add transition animations, play sounds when navigating Media Center, and even change your video background color.

(Background colors include Black, White and various shades of Gray.)



Use the arrow keys on your remote control to move to the buttons for each option. Press the **OK** button to select (add a check mark) or deselect (remove a check mark). To change the video background color, select the (**+**) or (**-**) button and press the **OK** button. When finished, select **Save**.

More Programs Options

More Programs Options

Media Center has teamed with other applications and Internet sites to not only make your entertainment experience better, but to also make it easier to create media, and to have access to more entertainment information.

You can control the media experience in Media Center and which application you can access within Media Center.

Use the arrow keys on your remote control to move to the buttons for each option. Press the **OK** button to select (add a check mark) or deselect (remove a check mark). When finished, select **Save**.

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Media Center

Media Center Setup

Set Up Internet Connection..... 20

Set Up TV Signal..... 21

Set Up Your Speakers..... 22

Configure Your TV or Monitor... 23

Set Up Remote Desktop..... 24

Automatic Updates..... 25

Join Wireless Network..... 26

Run Media Center Setup Again. 27

Restore Start Page Defaults..... 28

Media Center Setup takes you to the basic level of settings that are required for you to use Media Center.

Most of these options will guide you through a “wizard” (a series of screens) to make it easier for you to set up Media Center and your entertainment preferences.

Set Up Internet Connection

Start Menu | Settings | Media Center Setup

Set Up Internet Connection

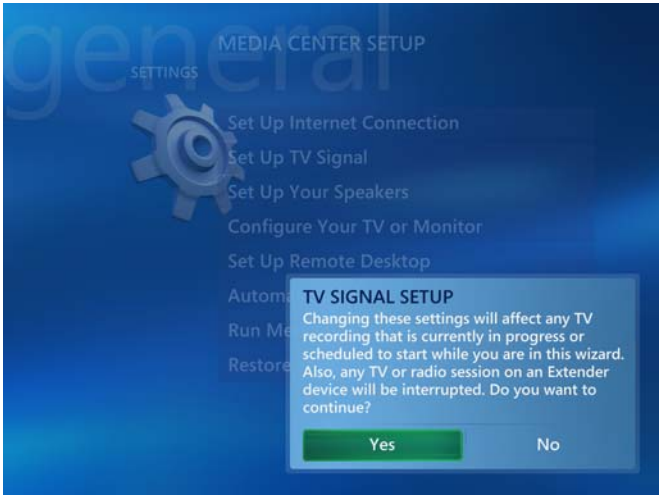
Media Center makes it easy to set up your Internet connection. Just read the on-screen information and answer a few questions—Media Center does the rest!

The first thing you need to know is if your Internet connection is “always on”. If you do, the computer will detect the signal and finish most of the setup for you.

Use the arrow keys on your remote control to move the **Yes** or **No** option. Press the **OK** button to select the option. Select **Next** to continue.

Set Up TV Signal

Media Center makes it easy to set up your TV signal for viewing. Just read the on-screen information and answer a few questions—Media Center does the rest!



You will need to confirm the region that you live in and then decide if you want Media Center to automatically configure your TV signal (recommended) or if you want do it yourself.

If you choose **Yes** to let Media Center configure your TV signal, make sure you read the **Prepare for Automatic Configuration** screen carefully before continuing.

Set Up Your Speakers

Start Menu | Settings | Media Center Setup

Set Up Your Speakers

Media Center makes it easy to set up your speakers for your listening pleasure. Just read the on-screen information and answer a few questions—Media Center does the rest!

Media Center will ask you for the number (or type) of speakers you have and then select the **Test** button.

After the test, select whether or not you heard sound coming from all your speakers and select **Next** to continue. If the test was successful, you're done! If not, Media Center will provide you with additional setting options.

Installation Note: For the best possible sound, use the HDMI cable (if possible) when connecting your speakers.

Configure Your TV or Monitor

Configure Your TV or Monitor Settings

Media Center makes it easy to set up your TV or monitor for viewing. Just read the on-screen information and answer a few questions—Media Center does the rest!

Select **Watch Video** or **Next** to continue.

A video is provided that contains additional information on setting up your display and improving the quality of your video viewing.

Set Up Remote Desktop

Start Menu | Settings | Media Center Setup

Set Up Remote Desktop

Media Center makes it easy to set up your Remote Desktop. For each step, read the on-screen information and answer a few questions—Media Center does the rest!

Select **Next** to Continue.

Automatic Updates

Automatic Updates

Media Center can help you keep your computer secure and running efficiently by automatically downloading and installing critical updates from Microsoft.

Windows Update

You should also continue to check for additional software and driver updates on a regular basis by selecting **Windows Update** from the **Start | All Programs** menu.

.

Use the arrow keys on your remote control to move the **Yes** or **No** option. Press the **OK** button to select the option. Select **Next** to continue.

Join Wireless Network

Start Menu | Settings | Media Center

Join Wireless Network

The advanced features of Media Center and the Digital Living System™ personal computer let you easily connect to an existing wireless local area network.

Media Center will guide you through a series of screens that provide step-by step instructions for connecting to your network.

Important Note: You must already have a working wireless local area network to use this feature. Selections made on these screens may overwrite your existing wireless network settings. Please follow the on-screen instructions carefully.

Run Media Center Setup Again

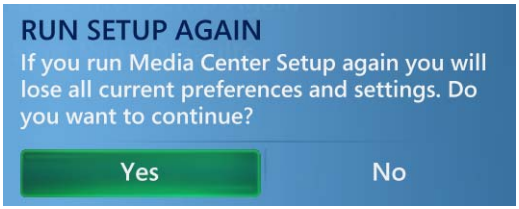
Run Media Center Setup Again

The first time you started Media Center, you were guided through a series of screens that helped you set up Media Center.

To go through the entire set up of Media Center again—screen by screen, select **Yes**.

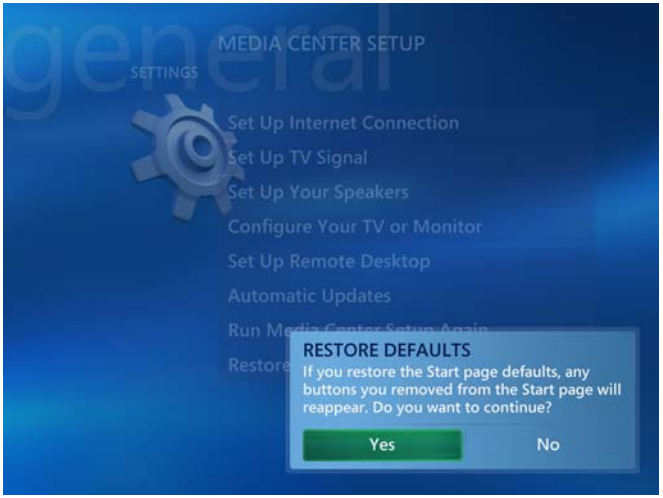
You will be guided through two sections: **Required Setup** (checks for components like networking and Internet) and **Optional Setup** (advanced settings and features).

Select **Next** to Continue.



Restore Start Page Defaults

Restore Start Page Defaults



During the course of working with various software programs and many different types of entertainment components, you might find it advantageous or necessary to restore the **Start** page defaults.

Doing this will remove any changes you may have made to the **Start** menu and restore it back to its original state.

Selecting **Yes** or **No** is the only action available for this option. Selecting **Yes** will automatically restore your **Start** page to its default settings.

Parental Controls

Media Center provides a process by which selected programs can be blocked from viewing. The first time you enter Parental Control, you will be asked to enter, and then confirm a new four digit access code. Once complete, you will be given access to the following parental controls:

TV Ratings	If you turn on TV blocking, you can then select allowable TV ratings for viewing, and by selecting **Advanced**, you can choose more restrictive rating than **TV-MA** for specific types of content.
Movie/DVD Ratings	If you turn on movie blocking, you can then select the maximum allowed movie rating for viewing.
Change Access Code	To change the access code, enter and then confirm a new code. You must be logged on as **Administrator**.
Reset Parental Controls	Resets the Parental Control back to the default settings.

Use the arrow keys on your remote control to move to the buttons for each option. Press the **OK** button to select (add a check mark) or deselect (remove a check mark). When finished, select **Save**.

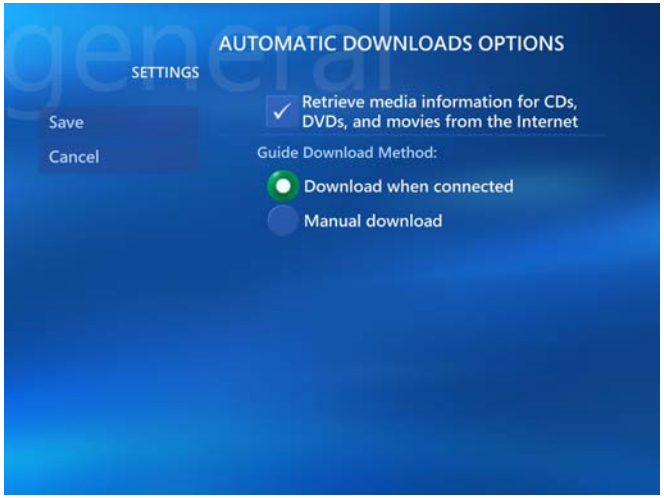
Automatic Download Options

Start Menu | Settings | General

Automatic Download Options

With Media Center and your Internet connection, you can view media information for your CDs, DVDs, and movies. Learn interesting new details about the music and movies you listen to and watch.

You also have the option to download Guide information automatically every time you start your computer, or you can choose to download manually.



Use the arrow keys on your remote control to move to the buttons for each option. Press the **OK** button to select (add a check mark or dot) or deselect (remove a check mark or dot). When finished, select **Save**.

Media Changer/Recorder Note: Make sure you select the **Retrieve media information...** option for proper functioning of the Media Changer/Recorder. This option must be selected to download view additional CD and DVD information.

Optimization

The **Optimization** feature is designed help you keep your system running efficiently and smoothly.

Select the **Perform Optimization** check box and then select the plus (**+**) or minus (**-**) options to set a schedule time.

You might want to set the **Optimization** schedule to run when you are certain you will not need to access Media Center.

For additional information, go to Media Center help.

About Media Center

Start Menu | Settings | General

About Media Center

About Media Center provides you with information concerning the version of Media Center that you are currently using, and Internet connections to the Guide Terms of Service from your TV signal provider, and Data Provider Credits.

Simply select an option to view the information.

Use the arrow keys on your remote control to move to the About Media Center menu button of your choice. Press the **OK** button to view your selection. When finished, select **Save/Done** or the **Back** button.

Privacy Settings

Your privacy is very important to us. You can view Media Center and Guide privacy statements in detail directly from the vendor with your Internet connection.

You can also use the Guide and an Internet connection to anonymously send information to Microsoft for the purpose of improving the quality and accuracy of services.

Use the arrow keys on your remote control to move to the **Privacy** menu button of your choice. Press the **OK** button to view your selection. When finished, select **Save/ Done** or the **Back** button.

SONY

Media Center

TV

Recorder..... 35

Guide..... 39

Set Up TV Signal..... 44

Configure Your TV or Monitor..... 45

Audio..... 46

You can control your TV entertainment experience. Each of these options allow you to set up TV viewing preferences to make sure you get the most out of your TV viewing.

- Record shows for viewing at a later date.
- Locate a show and review a brief description.
- Connect you TV signal and set up your TV or monitor with ease.
- Set preferences for your sound system.

Recorder

— **History**..... 36

— **Recorder Storage**..... 37

— **Recorder Default**..... 38

The **TV Recorder** options provide you with:

- a complete history of recorded shows.
- the location, limit, and quality of recorded shows.
- general programing defaults.

Please note the following:

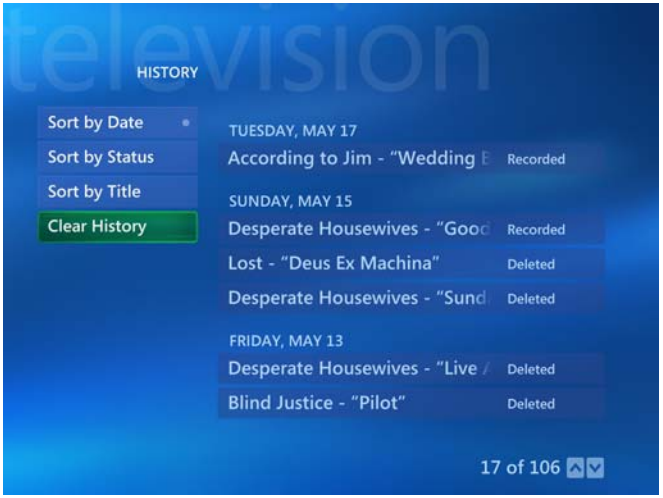
IMPORTANT: Sony supports the lawful use of technology and does not endorse or encourage the use of our products for purposes other than those permitted by copyright law.

TV programs that have been encrypted (protected) by the broadcaster cannot be copied and played back on any player other than the one recorded to.

History

History

Media Center stores a complete history of all recorded programing. Information such as the recording date, name of the program and the current status is stored.



The list can be sorted by **Date**, **Status**, and **Title**.

The information for every recording remains in the list until you select **Clear History**.

Use the arrows on your remote control to move to the menu options and each recorded program in the history list. Press the **OK** button to perform a menu command or to view status information about the selected show.

Recorder Storage

Media Center provides you with complete information about where and how your recorded programs are stored. You also have the ability manage that information and make changes, if necessary.

The **Available recording time** graph moves in relation to the **Maximum TV limit** selection.

Use the arrow keys on your remote control to move to the (**+**) or (**-**) buttons associated with the option of your choice. Press the **OK** button to change the option. When finished, select **Save**.

Recording Defaults

Start Menu | Settings | TV | Recorder

Recording Defaults

Media Center lets you create a list of defaults or conditions that determine the actions Media Center takes with your recorded programs. There are also specific defaults or conditions that are specific to the recording of a TV series.

Use the arrow keys on your remote control to move to the (**+**) or (**-**) buttons associated with the option of your choice. Press the **OK** button to change the option. When finished, select **Save**.

Guide

Edit Channels..... 40

Add Missing Channels..... 41

Set Up Guide Listings..... 42

Additional Guide Information..... 43

The Media Center Guide gives you the control you need to manage your TV channels and your TV guide listing.

View a channel listing from your TV signal provider where you can add, remove, and even rename channels.

Have Media Center automatically download new listings every time you start Media Center, or download the guide listings at your convenience.

Media Center puts you in control!

Edit Channels

Edit Channels

With Media Center, you can control what channels you and your family can access. Once you select **Edit Channels**, a list of channels from your TV signal provider shows on your screen.

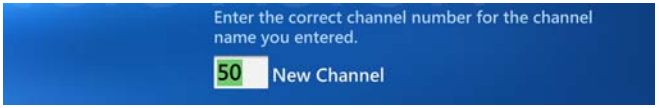
From here you can add, remove, and if needed, correct a channel number. If something goes wrong, simply select **Restore Default** to return the channel list to its original state.

Use the arrow keys on your remote control to move to the buttons for each option. Press the **OK** button to select (add a check mark) or deselect (remove a check mark) a channel. Use the keypad to change the channel number, if necessary. When finished, select **Save**.

Add Missing Channels

If for any reason you need to add a channel to your list of available channels, you can do so through **Add Missing Channels**. For example, you previously deleted a channel and now want to add it back.

Simply select **Add Channel** and then enter the channel name. Then select **Next** and enter the channel number. Finally select **Done**. Your added channel will be listed on the **Add Missing Channels** first screen.



Use the arrows on your remote control to move to a menu option and press the **OK** button to make your selection. Use the numeric keypad to enter a channel name and number. When finished. select **Done**.

Set Up Guide Listings

Start Menu | Settings | TV | Guide

Set Up Guide Listings

Media Center makes it easy to set up to download and view your **TV Program Guide**. Just read the on-screen information and answer a few questions—Media Center does the rest!

Media Center will ask you:

- If you want to use the **Guide**
- if you agree with the **Guide Terms of Service**
- for your **ZIP Code**

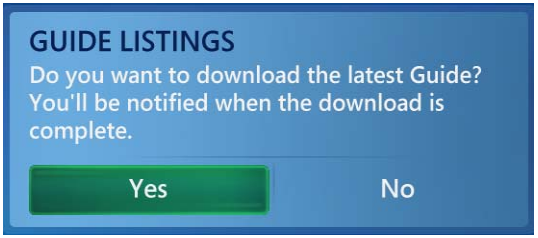
Then, Media Center will locate and download your TV Program Guide.

To get started, Select **Next**.

Additional Guide Information

To immediately download **TV Program Guide** listings, select

Get Latest Guide Listings



To download and view **Guide Terms of Service**, select

Guide Terms of Service

To download and view **About Guide Listings**, select

About Guide listings

Use the arrow key on your remote control to move to a menu option and press the **OK** button to select the option.

Set Up TV Signal

Set Up TV Signal

Media Center makes it easy to set up your TV Signal for viewing. Just read the on-screen information and answer a few questions—Media Center does the rest!

As you answer the questions and progress through the screens, you are required to **Confirm Your Region** and decide whether to use **Automatic TV Signal Setup** (recommended) or complete a **Manual Setup**.

If you are notified that Media Center cannot detect a TV signal, you cannot watch or record TV. Please go to Media Center **Help** for additional instructions.

Configure Your TV or Monitor

Configure Your TV or Monitor

Media Center makes it easy to set up your TV or monitor for viewing. Just read the on-screen information and answer a few questions—Media Center does the rest!

A video is provided that contains additional information on setting up your display and improving the quality of your video viewing.

As you answer the questions and progress through the screens, you are required to **Identify Your Display Type**, identify your **Connection Type**, decide how to **Optimize Media Center for your Display**, and **Adjust your Display Settings**. From here, select **Adjust Display Controls**, then select **Next** to view the screen **Display Calibration**. Here you can adjust the characteristics of your TV or monitor.

Note: Display setting may need to be refined using the **nVIDIA®** utiltiy program. To access the utility program, right-click anywhere on your desktop and select **nVIDIA DISPLAY**.

Audio

Start Menu | Settings | TV

Audio

With Media Center, you can set up options, such as **Audio** (Stereo,SAP), **Captioning** (CC1, CC2) and **Caption Display** (On, Off, On when muted) that affect your TV viewing.

Use the arrow keys on your remote control to move to the **Audio**, **Captioning**, or **Caption Display** (**+**) or (**-**) buttons. Press the **OK** button to change the TV audio selection. When finished, select **Save**.

Pictures

Gain complete control over how you view your digital pictures.

- Choose to view your pictures in order or randomly.
- Choose to show pictures in sub folders or the main folder.
- Choose to view picture captions.
- Choose a slide transition type.
- Choose to add animation when viewing your pictures

Once you decide how you want to view your pictures, select the appropriate buttons. Use the arrows on your remote control to move to the desired option, then press the **OK** button. When finished, select **Save**.

SONY

Music

Visualizations..... 49

Visualizations Options..... 50

With Media Center, you can add a visual component to your listening pleasure with Visualizations.

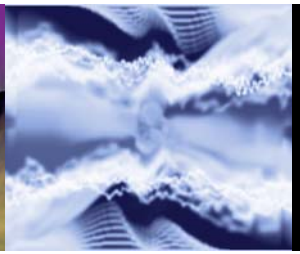
Visualizations are visual interpretations of an artist's music that plays on your TV or computer screen while you listen to the music.

To enjoy **Visualizations** while you are listening to your favorite music, select one or more viewing samples from the **Visualizations** page, and then make your selections from the **Visualization Options** page.

Visualizations

To enhance your music enjoyment, Media Center provides eight different visual interpretations of the musical performance.

Alchemy

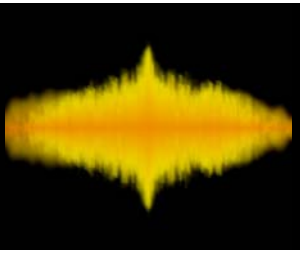


Ambience

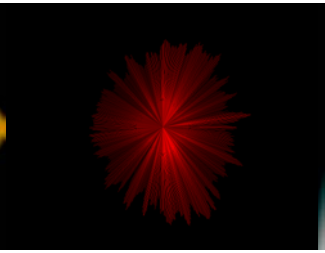
Bars and Waves

Battery

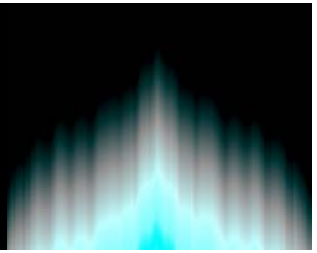
Particle



Plenoptic



Spikes



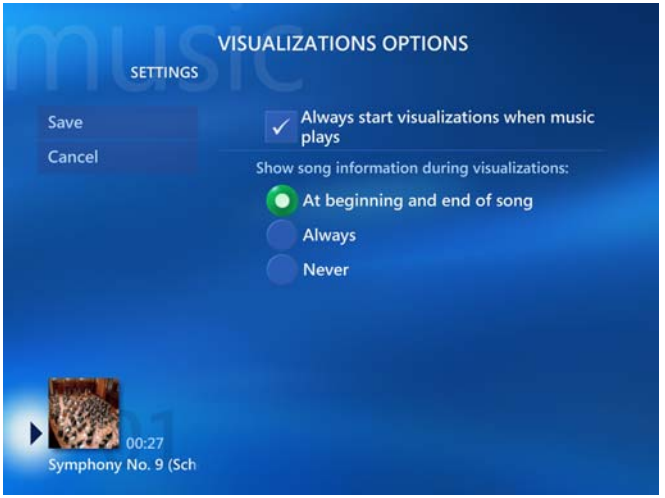
Musical Colors

Visualizations Options

Visualizations Options

Media Center “Visualizations” are visual interpretations of an artist’s music that play on your TV or computer screen while you listen to the music.

You decide if you want the visualizations to start when the music plays, and if song information can be viewed during the visualizations.



Once you decide on your visualizations and how they are viewed, select the appropriate buttons. Use the arrows on your remote control to move to the desired option, then press the **OK** button. When finished, select **Save**.

SONY

Media Center

DVD

DVD Language..... 52

DVD Audio..... 53

Closed Captioning..... 54

Remote Control Options..... 55

Media Center gives you the control to determine how best to create your cinematic experience.

Enhance your experience by selecting from these four topics that allow you to choose and define how to view your DVD movies.

DVD Language

DVD Language

When viewing a DVD, Media Center give you the option of changing the language for subtitles, the audio track, and menus. Choose from a list of 70 different languages, or select **Title Default** to play the DVD in the original language it was created in.

Use the arrow keys on your remote control to move to the **Subtile**, **Audio track**, or **Menu** (**+**) or (**-**) buttons. Press the **OK** button to change the language selection. When finished, select **Save**.

DVD Audio

Imagine yourself fully immersed in rich Dolby® Digital surround sound—not in a theatre, but in your home. Sony, InterVideo, and your Dolby Digital sources for sound bring the theatre experience to your living room.

Media Center and InterVideo helps you set up your speakers and environment to fully create the cinematic experience.

Note: You must have a multi-channel sound system to experience this feature.

Select **Configuration** to set up your speakers and channel mode, and select **Environment** to choose your listening experience (**Theatre**, **Normal**, **Late Night**).

Closed Captioning

Closed Captioning

Media Center gives you the option of adding closed captioning to your DVD viewing.

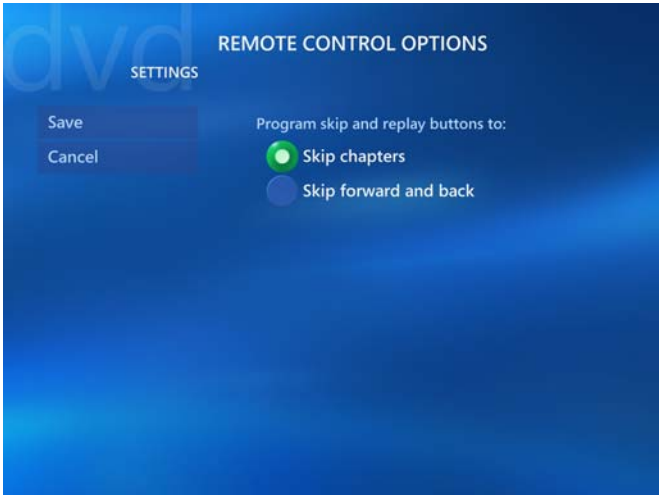
Enjoy DVD movies with those who are hearing impaired, or when sound in your environment becomes a viewing factor.

You can choose the type of captioning (**CC1** or **CC2**), and how the captions display (**On**, **Off**, or **On when muted**).

Use the arrow keys on your remote control to move to the **Captioning** or **Caption Display** (**+**) or (**-**) buttons. Press the **OK** button to change the selection. When finished, select **Save**.

Remote Control Options

When watching your favorite DVD's, you might want to watch only certain parts of a movie or skip forward or backward to locate a specific scene. Media Center makes this easy. You can set your remote control to skip chapters and skip forward and back, giving you the control and flexibility to watch exactly what you want to.



For detailed information about these settings, select **Help**.

Once you decide on your remote control options, select the appropriate buttons. Use the arrows on your remote control to move to the desired option, then press the **OK** button. When finished, select **Save**.

For additional information on using your remote control, go to the chapter titled **Getting Started**.

Messenger and Caller ID Settings

Enjoy Media Center and keep in contact with friends and family. You can sign in or sign out of Messenger at any time while in Media Center. You can also:

- Turn on and off the **Do Not Disturb** mode.
- Switch between Messenger conversations.
- Turn off Messenger sounds.

Once you decide your options, select the appropriate buttons. Use the arrows on your remote control to move to the desired option, then press the **OK** button.

Help

Windows Media Center is very easy to use when you follow the on-screen instructions. However, when you do need additional information, Media Center provides you with four areas of assistance.

Media Center Help

Community Forums

Latest Tips

Help with your Hardware

Please visit each of these areas and experience the quality assistance Media Center provides to you and your family.

Additional Help

Start Menu | Settings | Help

You can access Media's Center's Help areas by the following methods:

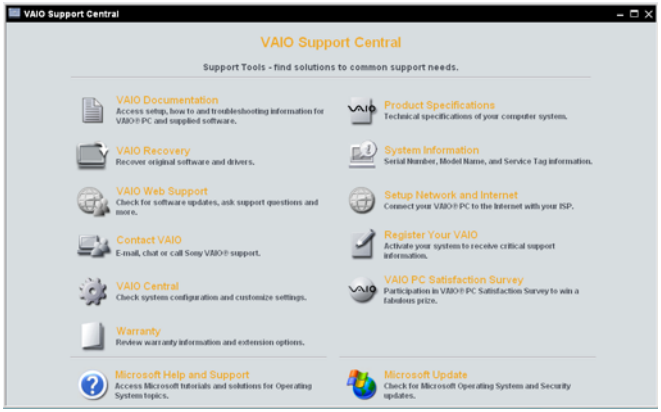
Remote Control - Press the **More** button, select **Settings**, then **Help**.

Remote Mouse - Move the Mouse to activate the Media Center tool bar, which appears at top of the screen. Then click the **Help** icon.

VAIO® Support Central

provides you with a single location for all of your support needs and allows you to easily access valuable support and technical information from **Sony** and **Microsoft**.

Keep your VAIO computer's system software and operating system updated using **VAIO Web Support** and **Microsoft Update**.



To access VAIO Support Central:

1. Using your wireless keyboard with integrated pointing device, click the Windows **Start** button.
2. From the **Start** menu, click **All Programs**.
3. From **All Programs** menu, click **VAIO Support Central.**

Helpful Hints

Windows® Updates

Remember to check regularly for Windows updates to keep the operating system updated with the latest software releases and security updates.

To start the Windows Update utility, connect to the Internet, click **Start**, **All Programs**, then click **Windows Update**. The Windows Update Web site opens. Follow the on-screen instructions.

VAIO® Updates

Sony Support provides updates designed specifically for your computer. All you need to do is go to Sony's Internet support site and enter the model number of your computer.

If you do not know your model number, go to the Products menu and select Computers & Peripherals, then Desktops. Finally, click Detect my model. Sony Support will show you information specific to your computer.

Support Internet Sites

Windows Updates

http://microsoft.com/windowsxp/mediacenter/

VAIO Updates

http://esupport.sony.com

Contact Sony Support

Internet Support

http://esupport.sony.com

Customer Support

(888) 476-6972

SONY

Media Center

Media Center Features

My DVDs..... 64

Online Spotlight..... 70

My Videos..... 71

My Pictures..... 78

My TV..... 86

My Music..... 96

Create DVD..... 103

My Changer..... 105

More Programs..... 111

—Manage Discs..... 112

VAIO personal computers equipped with Microsoft® Windows® XP Media Center Edition 2005 lets you experience the new and exciting world of digital home entertainment. Experience movies, TV, music, and photos like never before.

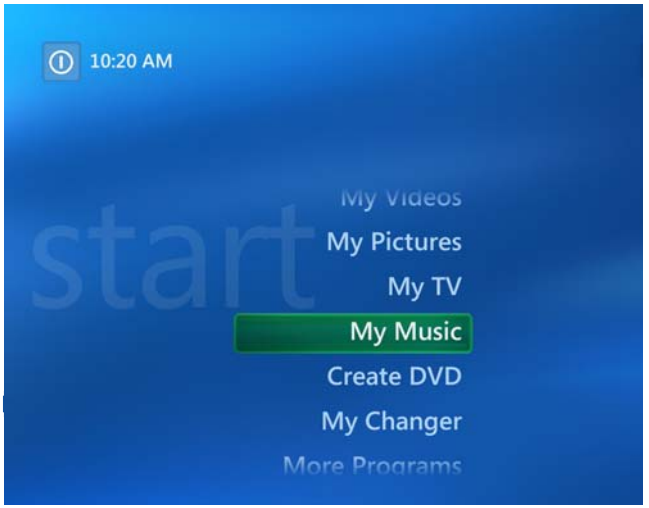
Combine the easy to use, yet powerful features of VAIO, and you can enjoy an even more dynamic entertainment experience.

Note: For information not shown in this guide, go to Media Center **Help**.

Experience Media Center

Review the following list for a high-level overview of the exciting features in Media Center.

For in-depth information about each feature, go to the specific topic in this book or to the Media Center help file.



My DVDs

View all the DVDs in your media library. Select a DVD to view programing information or to watch.

Online Spotlight

The Online Spotlight provides Internet access to the latest entertainment news and events.

My Pictures	You can categorize your pictures in as many folders as you wish. Then, select a group to view a single picture or a slide of all pictures in the folder.
My TV	Take control of your TV viewing experience. Watch live TV or record your favorite show for later viewing.
My Music	Enjoy access to all the music stored on your hard drive. Organize, locate, and play your favorite music files in Media Center.
Create DVD	Create DVDs from your favorite recorded TV series. Select only the episodes you want to burn to DVD.
My Changer	Manage your media library from your remote control, including auto-ripping and multi-disk burning.
More Programs	To enhance you entertainment experience, links have been included to additional programs for your enjoyment. Manage Discs is an important program found in More Programs that gives you the tools you need to control the discs stored in the Media Changer/Recorder.
Settings	Review this section carefully to get the most out of your digital entertainment experience.
My Videos	Watch digital videos that you've previously loaded in a folder on the hard disk drive recognized by Media Center.

SONY

Media Center

My DVDs

Loading and Unloading DVDs..... 65

Viewing DVD Movies 67

DVD Movie Controls..... 68

Helpful Hints..... 69

Watching DVD movies in Media Center lets **you** take control of your movie experience.

Sit back and use the remote control to play, pause, rewind, fast forward, stop, and even eject your DVD movie.

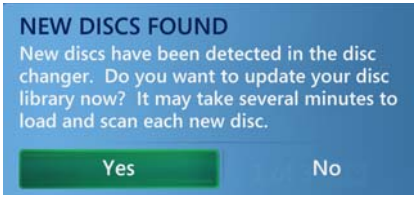
The Media Changer/Recorder lets you create your own movie library where you can store and manage up to 200 discs in a single location. Select a movie to enjoy without ever leaving the comfort of your favorite chair.

Loading and Unloading Discs

Loading discs in the **Media Changer/Recorder** creates your own personal media library that you can access from Windows Media Center with the touch of a button. Your library can contain the following types of media:

DVDs	Store DVDs that you buy or create
CDs	Store CDs that you buy or create
Data Discs	Store any type of data that you have a CD or DVD. Data discs can be viewed by selecting the Windows **Start** button, then **My Computer**, and finally selecting the drive from **Devices with Removable Storage**.
Blank Discs	Store blank discs for creating your own CDs and DVDs. For example, when archiving or copying recorded TV shows to disc, a message will inform you of the number of discs required to copy the selected recordings

When you load discs to the **Media Changer**, the discs must be recognized by Media Center before viewing. Go to **More Programs** and select the **Manage Discs** option or to directly to **My DVDs** to view the following message. Click **Yes** to continue.



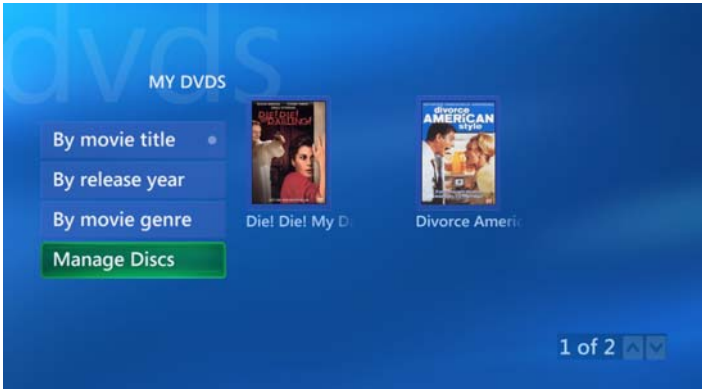
Loading Media Changer	Unloading Media Changer
1 Make sure the Changer/Recorder is properly connected to the Personal Computer and is turned on. **Note**: When loading discs, make sure that the label is facing to the right of the slot. 2 To load a **single** disc, press the **Load** button once and insert the disc in the slot. To load **multiple** discs, press the **Load** button twice and insert each disc in the slot one at a time. The drive will be blocked until the system is ready for the next disc. 3 Once the discs have been inserted, they must be scanned by Media Center before they can be viewed. Go to **More Programs** and select **Manage Discs** or to **My DVDs** 4 Click **Yes** on the **NEW DISCS FOUND** message to update your library with the new disc(s) information.	**To eject discs using Media Center**: 1 From Media Center, go to **My Changer** and select **Manage Discs**. 2 Select the **Eject** button associated with the disc you want to eject. **To eject discs manually**: 1 Press the **Eject** button one time to eject the last inserted disc. or 2 Press the **Eject** button two times to eject all discs in the changer slots. This will **not** eject the engaged disc in the changer drive. You must go to Media Center to eject the last disc. See steps 1 through 2 of **To eject discs using Media Center**.

Loading Media Note: It will take about 30 seconds for Media Center to scan each disc. It is recommended to insert each disc into the changer, and then let them all scan one after the other. For additional information, go to the **Manage Discs** topic in **My Changer**.

Viewing DVD Movies

Once you have loaded your DVD movies into the **Media Changer/Recorder**, and they have been identified by Media Center, you can view any movie in **My DVDs** with your remote control.

Sort the list by title, year, or genre and then select a movie. **Media Changer/Recorder** will locate the movie and place it in the drive for viewing. Movies in the drive of Media Changer or the Personal Computer appear with a disc next to the movie icon. Select the movie with the disc and then select **Watch** from the **MOVIE INFO** screen.



You can also view a movie from the personal computer by placing a disc in the optical drive.

DVD Movie Controls

Start Menu | My DVD

Media Center offers you the flexibility of using the remote control, or keyboard and mouse commands to simplify your DVD movie watching experience.

If you are enjoying the TV, Video, or Music options in Media Center and wish to view a DVD movie, simply insert the DVD and the following image appears.

Using your remote control, select **Play DVD**. Your movie automatically begins to play in full screen mode.

If you stop your movie using the remote control, the following options appear:

Resume	**Continues** playing from the stopping point.
Restart	**Restarts** the DVD movie from the beginning.
Title Menu	**Returns** to the DVD movie's title or beginning menu.
DVD Languages	**Select** the language preference for the Subtitle, Audio track, and Menu for the DVD movie.
Eject	**Ejects** the DVD movie.

Notes: (1) For DVDs, you can edit the movie title as it appears in **Manage Disks** or **My DVDs** by going to **Movie Info** and editing as desired.(2) You can view your DVD movies in full screen, windowed, or in a viewport window. Select the Windows **Resize** button to change the viewing screen size.

Helpful Hints

Resize the Viewing Screen

You can watch your DVD movie in a small viewport screen, which allows you access to other areas of Media Center, by pressing the **Windows** button on your remote control.

If you want to work and watch your DVD movie and the same time, move your mouse for the Windows resize buttons to appear. Select the **Resize** button.

Change DVD Languages

Change the language that your DVD movie displays for subtitles, the audio track and menus. If the movie is playing, press Stop on the remote control and then select DVD Languages. Select the **+** or **-** buttons to choose a language.

You can also change the DVD languages in Media Center. Go to **Start menu | Settings | DVD**.

More Movie Information

View additional information about the DVD movie you are watching by pressing the **MORE INFO** button on the remote control.

Information includes title, chapter title, genre, parental rating, length and current position.

Additional Settings for DVD Viewing

For these additional settings that can enhance your movie viewing, go to **Start menu | Settings | DVD**.

- Audio
- Closed Captioning
- Remote Control Options

SONY

Media Center

Online Spotlight

Media Center and Online Spotlight provide you direct access to various Internet entertainment sites. You can view the sites by category by selecting a menu option.

Use the arrows on your remote control to move to a site button. Information about the site displays below the list. To select the site, press the **OK** button.

SONY

Media Center

My Videos

Organize Your Videos..... 72

Play Your Videos..... 73

More Information/View Details.... 74

Create a DVD/CD..... 75

Import/Edit Video..... 76

Helpful Hints..... 77

Watch your home movies and digital videos stored on your hard disk drive using the Media Center remote control or your keyboard and mouse. View the videos in full screen mode, within a window, or from a viewport window.

Organize, store, and play videos stored on your hard drive that you have created, downloaded from the Internet, or recorded from TV.

Share your video files with others by creating DVDs or CDs.

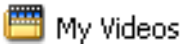
Organize Your Videos

With Media Center, it is easy to store and organize videos that you have created with your digital camera, digital recorder, or downloaded from the Internet.

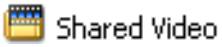
For you to view your videos in Media Center, the files must be stored in a location that Media Center looks in.

To view videos in **My Videos**, first copy and organize the files into the **My Videos** or **Shared Video** folder.

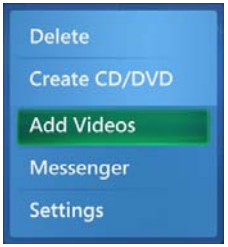
In the **My Videos** folder, you can create new folders or copy in other folders to better organize your files.



If you are connected to a home network and wish to share your video files with others, copy the files to the **Shared Video** folder.



If a video file is downloaded or stored in a folder other than **My Videos** or **Shared Videos**, you can add that folder(s) to the folder list that Media Center looks in.



From your remote control, press the **More Info** button, or if you are using your mouse, right click anywhere in **My Videos** to view this menu. Select **Add Videos** and follow the on-screen instructions.

Play Your Videos

With Media Center, it is easy to select and play a video stored anywhere on your hard drive. You can view your videos in full screen, windowed, or in a viewport window. Viewing from an viewport window gives you access to your computer or the Internet outside of Media Center.

To view a video, do the following using your remote control:

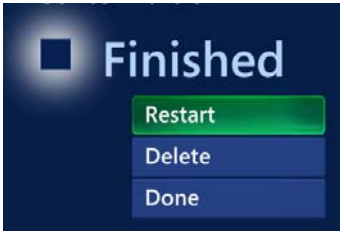
3 Press the **My Videos** button.

4 Select the folder where the video is stored and press **OK**.

5 Select a video and press **OK**.

The video you selected will begin to play automatically.

When the video is finished playing, the following menu appears:



Restart: Restarts the video from the beginning.

Delete: Deletes the video from your computer.

Done: Returns you to your video list.

More Information

Start Menu | My Videos

In Media Center, it's easy to find out more information about any digital video in your library. It doesn't matter if you just want to see the information before you watch it, or if you're already watching the video.

Use the arrow keys on your remote control to move to a video icon button. Press the **OK** button to select the video. From here, you can press the **OK** button again, or press **MORE** and select **View Details**.

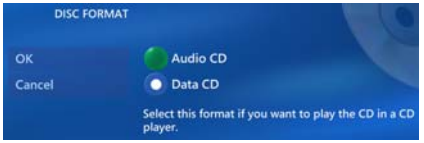
If are already watching a video, simply press the **MORE** button on your remote control.

You can view the following video information:

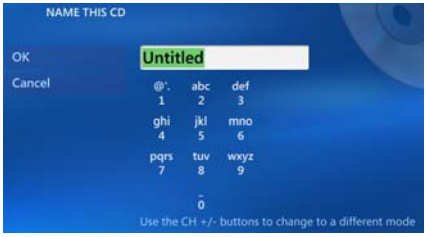
- Thumbnail of the cover, if available
- Video title
- video description
- Date the video was last created or modified.
- Video length. (h:mm:ss format)

Create a DVD/CD

With Media Center, its easy to copy your digital videos to a CD or DVD for safe keeping or to share with family and friends. Select a video, and then select **Create CD / DVD**. Media Center will then take you through a series of screens, which contain simple instructions to assist you in performing such tasks as:



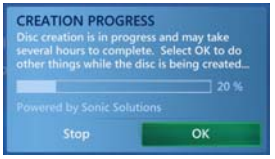
Select your disc format. Make sure you select the **Data CD/ DVD** format.



Give your video disc a title.

You can Select **All Videos** or only the ones you want,

View CD / DVD information.



When you have finished your choices, select **Create CD**.Then select **Yes** for **Initiate Copy**. You can view the creation progress and when complete, select **Finish**. Use the remote control arrows and **OK** button to make your selections.

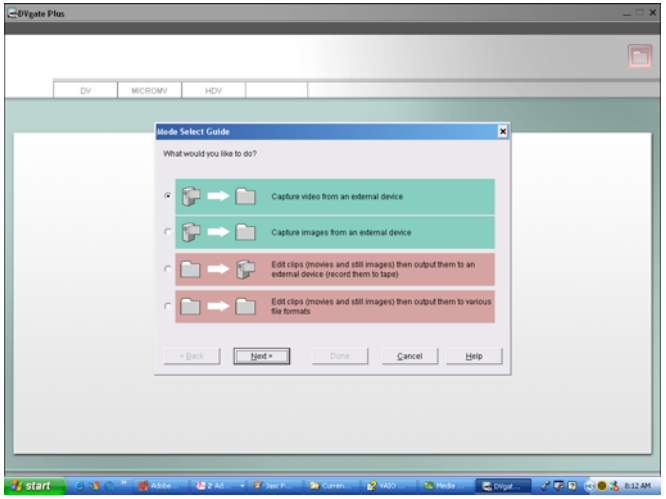
Note: You must insert a blank CD/DVD before starting **Create CD/DVD**.

Import/Edit Video

Start Menu | My Videos

Your computer comes equipped with DVgate Plus™ software, which allows you to import and edit videos from an external device or from recorded TV programs created with Media Center's My TV feature. You can edit the video and export it into specific folders to play back with My Videos.

For details on how to connect your digital video camera to your computer, refer to the documentation supplied with your camera or see the online VAIO® Computer User Guide.



To access DVgate Plus, click **Start**, point to **All Programs**, **DVgate Plus**, and then click **DVgate Plus**. For additional operating\editing instructions for DVgate PLus, see the DVgate Plus help file. (For help, press the F1 key or click Help on the menu bar or topic screen.)

Helpful Hints

Resize the Viewing Screen

You can watch your DVD movie in an viewport screen, which allows you access to other areas of Media Center, by pressing the **Windows** button on your remote control.

If you want to work and watch your DVD movie at the same time, move your mouse for the Windows resize buttons to appear. Select the **Resize** button.

Playing from an External Source

Media Center allows you to play video off a disc, from a external storage device (such as the Media Changer/ Recorder), or off a network drive.

Change Display View Quality

You can adjust your TV and monitor from **Settings** | **General** | **Media Center Setup** | **Configure Your TV or Monitor**. Just follow the on-screen instructions.

Separate My Videos Folders

If you set up multiple users on your computer, each user will have a separate **My Videos** folder that can only be opened by that user and a **Shared Videos** folder for sharing your videos with others.

Supported File Types

Windows Media file - .wm, .asf

Windows Media A/V - .wmv,

Video file - .avi

Movie file - .mpeg, mpg, mpe, .mp1, mp2, mpv2

SONY

Media Center

My Pictures

Organize Your Pictures..... 79

View Your Pictures..... 80

Edit Your Pictures..... 81

Play a Slide Show..... 82

Create a CD/DVD..... 83

More Information..... 84

Helpful Hints..... 85

Media Center makes it easy and fun to look at your digital photos. From **My Photos** you can:

- View your pictures individually or as a slide show.
- Edit, organize and sort your pictures by name or date.
- Share your pictures with others
- Create CDs or DVDs
- Print your pictures
- Protect your digital images

Organize Your Pictures

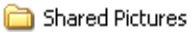
Using **My Pictures** in Media Center, it is easy to store and organize pictures that you have created with your digital camera or downloaded from the Internet.

For you to view your pictures in Media Center, the files must be stored in a location that Media Center looks in.

First, copy and organize the image files into the **My Pictures** or **Shared Pictures** folder.

In the **My Pictures** folder, you can create new folders or copy in other folders to better organize your files.

If you are connected to a home network and wish to share your video files with others, copy the files to the **Shared Pictures** folder.



If an image file is downloaded or stored in a folder other than **My Pictures** or **Shared Pictures**, you can add that folder(s) to the folder list that Media Center looks in.

From your remote control, press the **MORE INFO** button, Select **Add Pictures** and follow the on-screen instructions.

When you save pictures from your digital camera or scanner, Windows automatically stores them in the **My Pictures** folder.

Note: Pictures stored on media in the Changer will not have access to these features.

View Your Pictures

Start Menu | My Pictures

With Media Center, it is easy to select and view digital images stored in **My Pictures** or anywhere else on your hard drive. Before opening Media Center and viewing your pictures, you may want to spend some time in Windows Explorer organizing your pictures by creating various subject folders in the **My Pictures** folder,

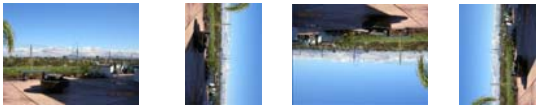
Use the arrows on the remote control to move to a menu option or a picture folder.

Press **OK** to open a folder and view thumbnails of your pictures. Move to the picture you want to view and press **OK** again. Press **BACK** to return to the list of thumbnails.

Picture Details: Edit Your Pictures

It's easy to edit your pictures directly in Media Center's My Pictures. Use the arrow keys on the remote control and move to a picture. Press **MORE INFO** and then select **Picture Details**. From here you can:

Rotate Rotates picture 45 degrees.



Touch Up If you select **Touch Up**, you can then choose the following:

Red Eye Automatically removes **red eye** from people and pets.

Contrast Automatically sharpens the contrast or clarity of your picture.

Crop The following tools are provided:

Shifts crop box in the direction of the selected arrow.

Zooms picture in and out.

Shifts orientation of picture.

Play a Slide Show

Start Menu | My Pictures

Instead of viewing your digital pictures individually, why not add some fun. It's easy to create a slide show and even add background music.

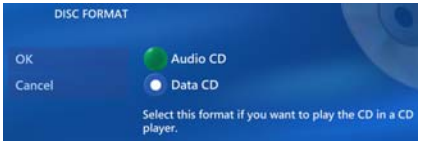
From **Settings | Pictures**, you can customize the settings for picture and song captions, transition type and length, background color, how pictures are displayed, and what pictures display.

Use the arrows on your remote control to select a folder, single picture or **Play Slide Show**

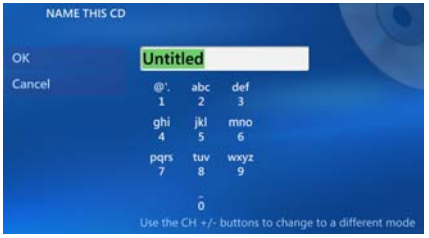
Press the **OK** button to select your option. For more information, see **Helpful Hints**.

Create a CD/DVD

With Media Center, its easy to copy your digital pictures to a CD or DVD for safe keeping or to share with family and friends. Simply select or open a picture folder, and then select **Create CD / DVD**. Media Center will then take you through a series of screens, which contain simple instructions to assist you in performing such tasks as:



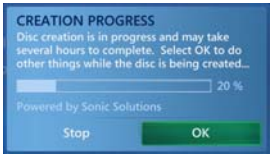
Select disc format. Make sure you select the **Data CD/DVD** format. **Data DVD** also lets you create a DVD slide show.



Give your picture disc a title.

You can Select **All Pictures** or only the ones you want.

View CD / DVD information.



When you have finished your choices, select **Create CD**.Then select **Yes** for **Initiate Copy**. You can view the creation progress and when complete, select **Finish**. Use the remote control arrows and **OK** button to make your selections.

Picture Details

In Media Center, it's easy to find out more information about any digital picture in your library.

Use the arrow keys on your remote control to move to a picture icon button. Press the **OK** button to select the picture. From here, you can press the **OK** button again, or press **MORE** and select **View Details**.

If are already viewing a picture, simply press the **MORE** button on your remote control.

You can also edit your pictures within Media Center. See the next page **Picture Details: Editing your Picutres**.

You can view the following picture information:

- Picture title
- Folder name, if stored in a folder
- Date the picture was created or modified
- Picture resolution

Helpful Hints

Picture Zooming and Panning

Select a picture from My Pictures.

Press **OK** once to magnify 150%. Press **OK** again to magnify 225%.

Now you can use the arrows to pan around the picture.

Press **OK** again to return the picture to its original size

Adding Music to a Slide Show

Select music from your Media Library. Play a CD or select a Playlist.

Use the remote control to open **My Pictures** and select the picture folder you want to watch as a slide show.

Select **Play Slide Show**. Press **OK**.

Printing Pictures in Media Center

Start Media Center and from My Pictures, select the pictures you want to print.

Press the **MORE** button and then select **Pictures Details**.

Select **Print** and then select **Print** again.

Follow any on-screen instructions.

Supported File Types

Joint Photographic Experts Group - .jpg, .jpeg

Tagged Image File - .tif

Graphics Interchange Format - .gif

Bitmap - .bmp

Windows Meta File - .wmf

Portable Networks Graphics - .png

SONY

Media Center

My TV

Watch Live TV..... 88

View the Guide..... 89

Guide Helpful Hints..... 90

Record and Schedule Programs. 91

Record/Schedule Helpful Hints... 92

Watch Recorded Programs..... 93

Search for a Program..... 94

Search for a Featured Movie..... 95

Watching your favorite TV program or movie in Media Center puts you in complete control of your viewing experience.

What do you want to do? Media Center makes it easy to locate, watch, or record your favorite TV program, sporting event, or movie.

And best of all, you can do all of this directly from your VAIO® computer and a TV signal connection.

My TV Features

Live TV	**Watch your favorite TV show or movie LIVE**. Use the Media Center buffer feature to pause, rewind, fast forward, or continue viewing your live program in progress. Use the **MORE INFO** button on the remote control to display TV show information.
Recorded TV	**Record any TV show or program for later viewing**. Plus, view a list of recorded programs by date or title, a list of programs scheduled to be recorded, play a recorded program, find out why a program wasn't recorded, or add a TV recording
Guide	**Download a listing of current television programming** from your local television service provider. Set Media Center to automatically update the program guide, or manually update whenever you are connected to the Internet.
Search	**Quickly find a TV program or a series to watch or record** by entering a descriptive word, program title, or program category.
Movies	**Go online to find movies on TV to watch now or later**. Get the latest movie information, read reviews, see cast lists, find other times the movie is broadcast, browse for related movies, and find other movies with the same cast members.

Watch Live TV

Watch live TV or record your favorite shows to view later. Use the Guide to find the show you want to watch or record.

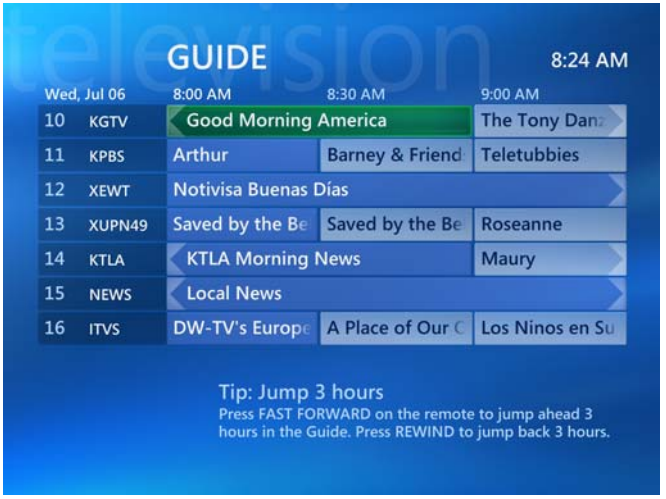
When you watch live TV, Media Center continuously captures 30 minute increments of the program. This enables you to rewind, replay, and fast forward in a TV program. This TV programming buffer is temporary and is not saved.

To view TV, press **LIVE TV** on your remote control or select the **LIVE TV** menu option.

Note: You can watch TV in full screen, windowed, or in an viewport window.

View the Guide

The Guide displays TV channel and program information, including titles, descriptions, categories, ratings, and program times.



You can view and scroll through the list of current and future TV shows in the Guide. When you select a program, information about the program displays below the program listings.

You can choose to have Media Center download the Guide from your local provider automatically, or download updated information yourself.

You can view the Guide listings at any time by pressing the **Guide** button on your remote control. Use the arrows to move to a show time, and use the **CHAN/PAGE** (**+/-**) buttons to move to any available channel. Press the **OK** button to select a program. Press the **MORE** button to view program details or record the program.

Guide Helpful Hints

Important Information

Guide data may not be available in all countries or regions. Please consult your local TV signal provider.

Make sure you are connected to the Internet and check your TV signal and guide settings in the Settings menu.

Removing Channels from Guide

From Media Center, select **Settings**, **TV**, **Guide**, and then **Edit Channels**.

Follow the on-screen instructions to remove channels from the Guide listing.

Add Missing Channels

From Media Center, select **Settings**, **TV**, **Guide**, and then **Add Missing Channels**.

Select **Add Channels** and enter the name of the missing channel.

Enter the correct channel number and select **Add**.

Repeat to add all missing channels.

Select **Done** when complete.

Downloading the Guide

Automatically - Determine settings for retrieving information for media and Method of Download for the Guide. From Media Center, select **Settings**, **General**, and then **Automatic Downloads Options**.

Manually - From Media Center, select **Settings**, **General**, **TV**, **Guide**, and then **Get Latest Guide Listings**.

Record and Schedule Programs

Media Center lets you record the program you are watching, one scheduled to broadcast later, or a recurring program series.

To verify your program is being recorded, select **My TV**, **Recorded TV**, and then select **Scheduled**. The **Record** icon appears next to the program while you are recording.

- Record the program you are watching by pressing **REC** on the remote control.
- Record from the Guide by selecting a program, then select **Record**.
- Record from the **Search** menu, which allows you to define search criteria.
- Record manually by selecting **Add Recording**, then select **Channel and Time**. The **Add Recording** button shows when no other recordings are scheduled.

Record and Schedule Helpful Hints

Standby Mode and Scheduled Recordings

Media Center will continue to record your scheduled TV shows even if you place the computer in standby or in hibernation state. The recording of TV shows will also continue even if Media Center is closed.

Set Up Recording Preferences

From Media Center, select **Settings**, **General**, **TV**, and then **Recorder**. From Recorder you can define or change settings for **History**, **Recorder Storage**, and **Recording Defaults**.

Copying Recorded Programs to DVD or CD

If you would like to copy or archive your recorded TV shows to CD or DVD, go to **Create DVD** located on the Media Center **Start** menu and follow all on-screen instructions.

Make sure you load blank discs in the **Media Changer/Recorder** before you begin.

Select **Stop** if you need to stop or cancel a current recording.

Recording Quality and Hard Disk Drive Storage Space

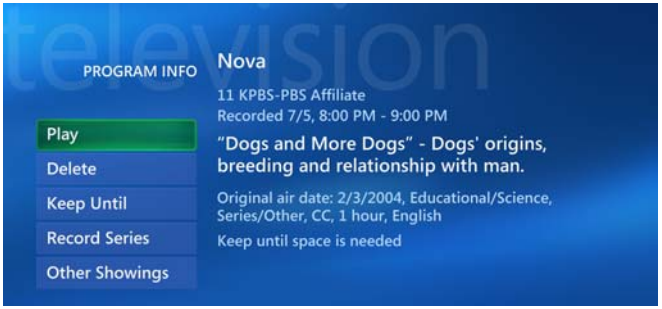
Quality	Space
Best	2.7 GB/hr
Better	2.4 GB/hr
Good	1.4 GB/hr
Fair	1.2 GB/hr

Watch Recorded Programs

Recorded TV is the storage place for all your recorded programs. In the **Recorded TV** window, you can sort your programs by name, date, or category. You can also delete a recorded program or series of programs.

To watch a recorded program, simply locate and select the program, and then select **Play**.

After you have recorded a TV program, you may want to save the program to a DVD. Go To My Changer and then select Archive TV Show and follow the on-screen instructions.



Use the arrows on your remote control to move to a menu option or program. Press the **OK** button to make your selection.

Search for a Program

Start Menu | My TV

Media Center **My TV** has an easy to use search feature that lets you quickly locate the program you want to watch or record.

You can search by **Categories**, **Title**, or **Keyword**.

The results from your search can be viewed in a list sorted by day for the number of days remaining on your current guide listing.

Once you locate the program you want to watch or record, press the **OK** button on your remote control.

Use the arrows on your remote to move to a menu option and press the **OK** button to make your selection. Use the keypad to enter a **Title** or **keyword**. Results show on screen automatically.

Search for a Feature Movie

When you select the **Movies** menu option, Media Center searches your entire TV Guide listing for movies based on your input for what you want to see.

Once you make a movie selection, you can watch the movie, view additional information about the movie, or record the move.

Note: Access to view restricted channels must be given by your TV signal provider.

Use the arrow keys on your remote to move to a menu option or movie and press the **OK** button.

SONY

Media Center

My Music

Organize Your Music Files..... 97

Play Music..... 98

Queue Music..... 99

Add Music..... 100

Create and Organize Playlists..... 101

Helpful Hints..... 102

Enjoy a complete listening experience with My Music. You can listen to CDs, view artist information, create and organize your own music playlists, categorize and listen to music by genres, search for music selections, and more.

With Media Center and My Music, you can play your favorite music files and CD's you have added to the Windows Media Player Library.

Note: You can also use the Windows Media Player to play music and add, delete, categorize, and organize your music files. However, if you use Windows Media Center's My Music for your listening entertainment needs, you will have the added benefits of Sony's VAIO enhanced features. Please see Windows Media Player Help for additional information.

Organize Your Music Files

With Media Center, it is easy to store and organize music files that you have added from your favorite CD's or have downloaded from the Internet.

For you to listen to music in Media Center, the files must be stored in a location that Media Center looks in.

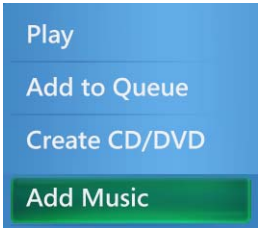
First, add and organize the music files into the **My Music** or **Shared Music** folders.

In the **My Music** folder, you can create new folders or copy in other folders to better organize your files.

If you are connected to a home network and wish to share your music files with others, copy the files to the **Shared Music** folder.

If a music file is downloaded or stored in a folder other than **My Music** or **Shared Music**, you can add that folder(s) to the folder list that Media Center looks in.

From your remote control, press the **MORE INFO** button, or right click using your mouse anywhere in **My Music** to view this menu. Select **Add Music** and follow the on-screen instructions.



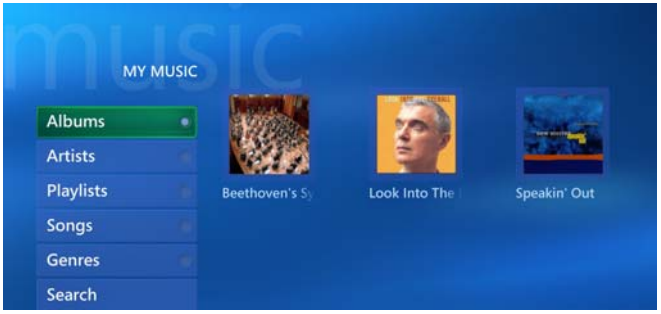
Note: CDs stored in the **Changer** are not displayed in **My Music**.

Play Music

Start | My Music

Once you've placed your music files in the **My Music** library, you are ready to listen to your favorite song, album (CD), or playlist.

Media Center provides you with several categories in which to sort your music files for easy locating.



Albums (CDs)	Shows thumbnail of cover and title, if connected to the Internet.
Artists	Lists artist name and additional information about the artist.
Playlists	Lists playlists that you've created from Media Center/-Player.
Songs	Lists song title, length, and additional information, if selected.
Genres	Lists genres categories, such as Classical, Jazz, and Rock.

To listen to your music, use the arrows on the remote control to move to a menu option or music selection such as an album, artist, playlist, or song and press the **OK** button. Then select the **Play** menu option.

Note: You can also listen to your music from the **Windows Media Player**.

Queue Music

In Media Center's **My Music**, you can "line up" or queue the music you want to hear. The **Queue** is simply a temporary list of music. By using this feature, you don't have to keep selecting new songs or albums. There can be several pieces of music lined up to play one after the other.

To add music to the **Queue**, use the arrows on the remote control to select music from any of the categories and press the **OK** button. The next screen shows information for that particular piece of music. Move to the menu and select **Add to Queue** and press the **OK** button,

Remember, the Queue is temporary and will go away if you do any of the following:

- Select **Play** instead of **Add to Queue** for another song or album in My Music
- Play media in **My TV** or **My Videos**.
- Close Media Center (This includes logging off, turning off or restarting the Media Center computer, or putting the computer into **Standby** or **Hibernate** mode.)

Add Music

From a CD

1. Press the Media Center **Start** button on the remote control, and then select **My Music**.
2. Insert a CD into the CD drive of the personal computer.
3. Select the **Albums** category.
4. Select the Album or CD you want to add to your music library.
5. Select **Copy CD**.
   The first time you copy a music CD, you must select your copy protection options. Follow the on-screen instructions.

   As each song finishes copying, a icon appears next to the title.

   Note: You can also auto-rip music CDs from the Media Changer. For additional information, see **My Changer**, page 105

From the Internet

- Follow all on-screen instructions from the Internet site to download music files to your computer.
- If you download your music files directly to the **My Music** or **Shared Music** folders, Media Center will automatically make the files available to you.
- If you download your music files to any location on your computer, you must add that location in Media Center by pressing the **MORE INFO** button on your remote control and then selecting **Add Music**.
- Locate and select the folder where you downloaded the music files and then select **Finish**. Media Center will add the folder to the **My Music** library.

Create and Organize Playlists

A Playlist is a customized list of songs you can keep to play at a later time or record to CD. Using Playlists, you can group your favorite digital music files together and determine the order in which you want the files to play. You can create a Playlist that includes several tracks from various CDs or even a Playlist that contains background music for a slide show. To create a Playlist, do the following:

1. Select a song and add to queue.
2. Move to the viewport screen and press the **OK** button to select it.
3. From the Queue screen, select the **Edit Queue** menu option.
4. From the Edit Queue screen, select **Save As Playlist**.
5. Enter a name for your new Playlist and select **Save**.

Use the arrows on your remote control to move to menu options, songs, or the viewport window and press the **OK** button to make your selection. Use the numeric keypad to enter a name for your new Playlist.

Note: You can create Playlists in Windows Media Center or from within Media Player.

Helpful Hints

Selecting a Visualization

From Media Center, select **Settings**, and then to **Music**. Go to **Visualizations Options** to choose when and how the visualizations display.

Then go to **Visualizations** to choose from eight different graphical patterns.

Add/Edit Queue Meta Data

From Media Center's My Music, select an album, artist, song, or playlist. Press the **MORE INFO** button on the remote control, and select the **Edit** menu option.

From the Edit screen, enter or modify the Queue meta data as necessary.

Create a CD/DVD

From Media Center, select **My Music** and then select the music you want to copy.

Select Create CD/DVD and follow the on-screen instructions.

Supported File Types

CD Audio - .cda

MP3 - .mp3, .m3u

Windows Audio File - .wav

Windows Media Audio Files - .asx, .wm, .wma, .wmv, .wmp, .wmx

SONY

Media Center

Create DVD

Create DVD Main Screen..... 104

Your DLS computer provides you with various methods of creating your own DVDs. **Create DVD**, unique to VAIO® PCs with MCE, is the only method where you can control the entire process with your remote control.

For additional methods for creating DVDs, go to **More Programs**.

IMPORTANT: Sony supports the lawful use of technology and does not endorse or encourage the use of our products for purposes other than those permitted by copyright law.

TV programs and commercial DVDs that have been encrypted (protected) by the broadcaster cannot be copied and played back on any player other than the one recorded to.

Main Screen

The **Create DVD** main screen shows you a list of all of your TV show recordings. To create a DVD, select the desired recordings from the list. With each recording selected, information about the recording and the DVD displays.

Once you have selected the recording, you can do the following from the menu:

Sort	Sort the list by date or name (title)
Option	Takes you to the DVD Settings screen where you can select a theme or category and playback settings for the DVD. Select **Configuration** to choose the drive for creating the DVD.
Burn	Starts the Creating DVD process. A progress bar displays.
Help	Opens the Click to DVD Help file for reference.
	Please read and follow all on-screen instructions.

SONY

Media Center

My Changer

My Changer Music..... 106

Copy Music..... 107

Archive TV Series..... 109

My Changer is a Sony feature added to Media Center that is only available with Sony's **VGX-XL1 Digital Living System™.**

To access the new **My Changer** features, the **VGX-XL1A** Personal Computer and the **VGX-XL1B** Media Changer/Recorder must be connected.

The advanced features of **My Changer** let you:

- **Play** your music discs directly from the Media Changer/Recorder.
- **Copy** multiple discs from the Media Changer to your hard drive (Auto-ripping).
- **Create** (Burn) multiple DVDs of your favorite TV Series with intervention.
- **Access** a Help file unique to the VGX-XL1 Digital Entertainment System.

My Changer Music

My Changer Music

My Changer Music is a gallery or list of all albums (audio CDs) that are stored in the Media Changer/ Recorder and that have been scanned and identified by Media Center.

From this gallery, you can play an album, and view additional information about an album such as artist, title, and cover art. Select any album to start playback of the that CD.

My Changer Music (Media Changer/Recorder) and **My Music** (Media Center) are distinct areas in your entertainment system and offer separate features. **My Changer Music** does not display music discs or files that have been copied to the **My Music** or **Shared Music** folders on the hard disk drive. The only Media Changer/Recorder audio CD available in **My Music** is the current disc in the Media Changer's drive.

Copy Music

Copy Music is a feature that lets you copy multiple discs to the **My Music** folder on the hard disk drive. Once discs are copied, they will show as gallery albums in **My Music** where you can access the files and play the albums as you normally would in Media Center.

Select albums/discs to copy by selecting them individually, or by choosing the **Select All** button. When complete, select the **Copy Music** command. The Copy Music screen shows only those albums selected for you to review. Select **Start Copying** to begin the copying process. As each disc is copied, a check mark will appear next to each completed album in the list. An "**X**" appears next to albums that failed to copy successfully.

Note: This process can be time consuming. The time required to copy all discs varies with the number of discs selected and the length of each disc.

Copy Music Helpful Hints

Playing Copied Music

Even though you can play your music from **My Changer**, it is recommended that you take advantage of the **Copy Music** feature, which allows you to rip your music CDs to your hard disk, where you can take full advantage of the many **My Music** features in Media Center.

Eject Copied Discs

Once you have ripped your selected music CDs to your hard disk, you might want to remove the copied discs from the changer since the music can now be access from **My Music**. Select the **Eject Copied Discs** option to eject all discs that were ***successfully copied*** to the hard disk.

Multi-tasking During Ripping

Once the ripping process begins, a progress bars appears in the list on the album currently being copied. Since the ripping process can be time consuming, you can leave the progress screen to do other activities.

If you leave the progress screen, you can return by going back to **My Changer** and selecting **Copy Music**.

Trouble Shooting

If an album does not successfully copy, eject the disc and check for scratches on the surface of the disc and then try again.

Warning: During the ripping process, do not try to access the changer from **My DVDs** or **Manage Discs**.

Archive TV

The **Archive TV** feature is used to create DVDs of an entire recorded TV series or selected episodes of a series. The **Archive TV** screen displays a list of all recorded TV series. After selecting a series, the **Select Episode** screen displays a list of all episodes for the series.

After selecting episodes for archiving, a message appears informing you of the number of blank discs required and whether there are enough blank discs in the Media Changer.

This process can be time consuming. The time required varies with the number and length of each episode selected.

Note: This feature should not be used to violate third party's copyrights.

After you select **Start**, it is recommended that you do not leave the **Archive TV** screen once the archiving process has started. Leaving the screen could affect the archiving process. However, you can access other areas outside of Media Center.

Archive TV Helpful Hints

Before You Archive

In order not to have your archiving process interrupted, insert the required number of blank DVDs into the changer before you begin and then go to **My DVDs** or **More Programs > Manage Discs** so the blank discs can by scanned and identified by Media Center.

Trouble Shooting

Please check your media type.

Archive TV Show does not support Dual-Layer DVDs (DVD+R DL)

Required Blank Discs

When archiving TV shows, **My Changer** provides an estimate of the number of blank discs needed to record or archive the episodes you have selected to make sure the archiving process in not interrupted.

Note: Calculations are based on the assumption that all discs used for archiving are single-sided.

Copy Protected Shows

You may not be able to archive some TV shows because they may be copy protected. If you select to archive a show that has been copy protected, the following message appears.

This show has been encrypted (protected) by the broadcaster and cannot be copied and played back on any player other than the one recorded to.

SONY

Media Center

More Programs

From **More Programs**, Sony's advanced features offers you direct access to various programs that can enhance your entertainment experience.

Create CD/DVD	Burn pictures for slide shows, video files, and recorded TV.
Create DVD	VAIO added value program to archive recorded TV shows.
Internet Explorer	Opens a version of **Internet Explorer** that can be controlled through your remote control.
InterVideo	Allows you to define audio and visual settings.
Manage Discs	Media Changer/Recorder feature: See next page for details.
Messenger	Opens Windows **Messenger** for instant text messaging.
Sync to Device	Assists in synchronizing media to a portable media device.

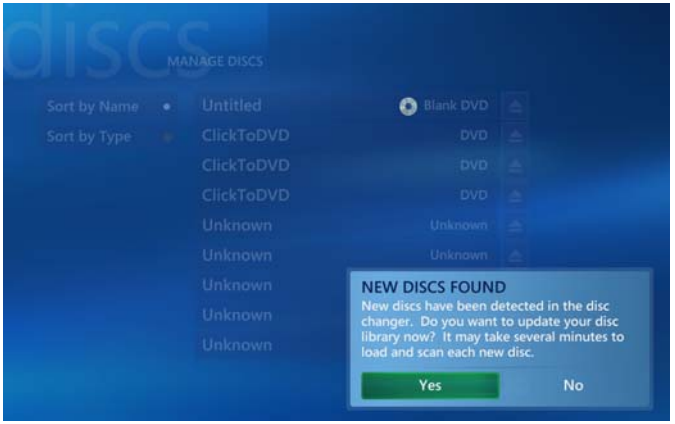
For additional information, see **Manage Discs** (pg 112) and **Internet Explorer** (pg 115).

Manage Discs

Manage Discs

The Manage Discs feature gives you the tools you need to control the portion of your media library stored in the Media Changer.

The main screen shows a list of all media in the changer sorted by name or type. If no metadata is found, the volume name displays.



Manage Discs Tools:

- Scan and identify new discs in the changer and update disc data in the library.
- Sort the changer library by name or type. Type allows you to verify the number of discs in the changer for each type of media. This is useful when archiving a TV series or creating other DVDs to determine the number of blank discs available
- Eject discs. Remove media from the changer by selecting the Eject button.

Note: Any disc in any drive can be also be accessed from **Windows Explorer** or **My Computer**.

Manage Discs: Media Types

The “Types” of media that can be stored in the changer include:

Select this type...	To do this...
Audio CD	Plays CDs. For additional features, links directly to Media Center’s **My Music** by selecting the viewport window.
DVD	Plays DVD movies. For additional features, links directly to Media Center’s **My DVDs** by selecting the viewport window.
Data CD/DVD	Places the data disc in the drive. To access the disc, go to **Windows Explorer** or to **My Computer**. The changer’s drive appears as **DVD-RAM** drive in **My Computer**.
Blank CD/DVD	Records videos, pictures, recorded TV, or music to disc.
Error	Displays if disc is inserted wrong or is unreadable.

Supported Media	**Warning**:
CD-R, CD-RW, DVD+-R/RW, DVD+R DL Double Layer Media, Redbook Audio CDs, Movie DVDs (Region 1, U.S.is default.)	VGX-XL1 does not support Duel Disc Media. Do not insert unsupported media types into the Media Changer/ Recorder. Inserting a nonstandard-sized or -shaped disc into a drive that is not designed to accommodate it may damage the drive. The 120 mm round discs are the only size and shape that should be used unless otherwise specified by Sony.

Loading Media Changer

1 Make sure the Media Changer/ Recorder is properly connected to the Personal Computer and is turned on.

Note: When loading discs, make sure that the label if facing to the right of the slot.

2 To load a **single** disc, press the **Load** button once and insert the disc in the slot.

To load **multiple** discs, press the Load button twice and insert each disc in the slot one at a time.

3 Once the discs have been inserted, they must be recognized by Media Center before they can be viewed.

Go to **More Programs** or **My DVDs** and select **Manage Discs**.

4 Click **Yes** on the **NEW DISCS FOUND** message to update your library with the new disc(s) information.

Unloading Media Changer

To eject discs using Media Center:

1 From Media Center, go to **My Changer** and select **Manage Discs**.

2 Select the disc you wish to eject.

3 The disc moves to the drive. Then select the **arrow** to eject the disc.

To eject discs manually:

1 Press the **Eject** button one time to eject the last inserted disc.

or

2 Press the **Eject** button two times to eject all discs in the changer slots.

This will **not** eject the last disc in the changer drive. You must go to Media Center to eject the last disc. See steps 1 through 3 of **To eject discs manually**.

Note: Pressing the **Eject** button one time will cause a no reaction response from the changer. You must press the **Eject** button again to continue.

More Programs: Helpful Hints

Each of the programs that **More Programs** offers you access to, contains a **Help** file to provide you with the assistance you need to complete your desired tasks. Please review the help information to find out more about each of these programs.

Internet Explorer

Your VGX-XL1A personal computer allows you to search the Internet from the comfort of your favorite chair using the wireless keyboard (**recommended**) or the VAIO remote control.

To use your remote control, must perform the following setup procedures:

- From **Internet Explorer**, go to **Tools > Remote Control Option** and select the **Enable Remote Control** ... check box.

When you first open Internet Explorer using your remote control, you will see an **Operation Guide** located at the bottom of the screen. From here, you can access various **Modes** such as scrolling, navigation and others.

- Use the **Channel +/-** button on the remote control to access the **Operation Guide**.
- Use the **MORE** button on the remote control to access a toolbar that contains several functions button, including how to exit Internet Explorer.

Thank you for purchasing the Sony® VAIO® VGX-XL1 Digital Living System™.